

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 139469
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 AGRE-00 IGA-02 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /081 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:JHLEWIS:LFS

APPROVED BY AF:TWSEELYE

-----160601Z 086785 /14

R 160137Z JUN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMCONSUL DOUALA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 139469

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CD, US, LY, PINS, EAD

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR TOURA GABA'S CALL ON ACTING AF ASSISTANT SECRETARY SEELYE

REF: YAOUNDE 2493

1. ON JUNE 14 CHADIAN AMBASSADOR PIERRE TOURA GABA MET AT HIS REQUEST WITH AF ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY SEELYE. AF/W DIRECTOR AND ACTING COUNTRY OFFICER ATTENDED MEETING.

2. PURPOSE OF TOURA GABA'S VISIT WAS TO DISCUSS TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS IN THE MOVEMENT OF EMERGENCY FOOD FROM CAMEROON TO CHAD. ACCORDING TO TOURA GABA, THE SLOW EVACUATION OF FOOD FROM DOUALA'S PORT AND THE RAIL HEAD
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 139469

AT N'GOUANDERE WAS CREATING A POSSIBLE DISASTER SITUATION IN CHAD. TOURA GABA BELIEVES IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT CHAD RECEIVE IMMEDIATE AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE, PARTICULARLY FOR IN-COUNTRY DISTRIBUTION, SINCE IT WAS JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THE RAINS CLOSE MANY ROADS. ACCORDING TO HIM THE AIRLIFTS PROVIDED BY THE GERMANS AND THE FRENCH WERE VERY HELPFUL, BUT IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT CHAD COULD EXPECT FURTHER

AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE FROM THESE TWO COUNTRIES. HE ARGUED TIME WAS OF ESSENCE, AND SAID CHAD NEEDED A DEFINITE RESPONSE FROM US ON ITS REQUEST FOR AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE.

3. IN RESPONSE, AMBASSADOR SEELYE SAID THAT PRESENT INFORMATION INDICATED THE TRANSPORTATION SITUATION HAD RECENTLY IMPROVED, AND WAS NOT CRITICAL ENOUGH TO REQUIRE USG AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT QUOTA RE USE OF CAMEROONIAN TRANSPORT HAD BEEN LIFTED. HE ADDED THAT THE USG WANTED TO HELP THE CHADIANS BUT WOULD LIKE TO BE SURE THAT ALL CONVENTIONAL MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION HAD BEEN EXHAUSTED BEFORE RESORTING TO AN AIRLIFT. HE MADE THE POINT THAT IN THE PAST THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOUND AIRLIFT TO BE VERY EXPENSIVE AND AN INEFFICIENT METHOD OF MOVING FOOD. HE TOLD TOURA GABA THAT WE WOULD REQUEST AN UP-TO-DATE EVALUATION OF THE CURRENT TRANSPORTATION SITUATION FROM OUR EMBASSY. IF THE SITUATION BECAME CRITICAL ENOUGH TO WARRANT IT, THE USG WOULD GIVE SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION TO PROVIDING AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE. AMBASSADOR SEELYE SUGGESTED THAT TOURA GABA ALSO REQUEST A CURRENT ASSESSMENT FROM HIS GOVERNMENT.

4. THE MEETING CONCLUDED WITH A VERY BRIEF EXCHANGE ON THE STATE OF LIBYAN AND CHADIAN RELATIONS. ALTHOUGH TOURA GABA NOTED THE PRESENCE OF LIBYAN VEHICLES WITH REBEL FORCES IN CHAD, HE DID NOT RPT NOT RAISE CHAD'S MILITARY REQUIREMENT OR THE POSSIBILITY OF U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 139469

5. ACCORDING TO TOURA GABA, HIS SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON CHAD'S TRANSPORTATION SITUATION IS MBAIBIKEEL, DIRECTOR/ DLCNN WHO IS CURRENTLY ATTENDING DISASTER SEMINAR IN WASHINGTON. IT WAS EVIDENT DURING THE MEETING THAT TOURA GABA DID NOT HAVE SPECIFIC DATA TO SUBSTANTIATE HIS CLAIM THAT THE TRANSPORTATION SITUATION HAD SERIOUSLY WORSENED.

6. AFTER THE MEETING WITH SEELYE AF/W DIRECTOR ASKED TOURA GABA WHETHER CHAD HAD EVER CONSIDERED REQUESTING ASSISTANCE OF THE CAMEROONIAN GOVERNMENT (REFTEL) TO MOVE FOOD FROM N'GOUANDERE TO N'DJAMENA. TOURA GABA WAS NOT CERTAIN WHETHER HIS GOVERNMENT HAD EVER MADE SUCH A REQUEST BUT HE THOUGHT IF SUCH A REQUEST WERE MADE, THE CAMEROONIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT BE VERY FORTHCOMING.

7. ACTION: DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING SOONEST POST'S UPDATED ASSESSMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM. WHERE ARE STOCKS OF FOOD NOW LOCATED? WHERE ARE AREAS OF GREATEST NEED? WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS REGARDING

THE DOUALA, N'GOUANDERE-N'DJAMENA SUPPLY ROUTE?
IF AIRLIFT WERE REQUIRED, WHERE, WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG IS
IT LIKELY TO BE NEEDED? IN SECURING ANSWERS TO THESE
QUESTIONS, YOU SHOULD NOT GO BEYOND POSITION OUTLINED IN
PARA 3 ABOVE.
CHRISTOPHER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRANSPORTATION, MEETINGS, FOOD ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE139469
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JHLEWIS:LFS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770214-1113
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770649/aaaabrbk.tel
Line Count: 122
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a0c27c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 YAOUNDE 2493
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2123628
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSADOR TOURA GABA'S CALL ON ACTING AF ASSIS- TANT SECRETARY SEELYE
TAGS: PINS, EAID, CD, US, LY, (TOURA GABA, PIERRE)
To: NDJAMENA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a0c27c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009